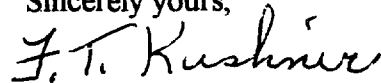


The Wheaton Public Library is among those libraries working hard to offer the latest in library technology in a community that expects it. We provide access to on-line databases with our direct Internet connection, because the currency of information is very important. Installing a direct connection is expensive. Paying monthly Internet access charges and charges for the line is expensive. It is a heavy burden on the library budget, and we would welcome more favorable rates, as would libraries far poorer than we are. In Wheaton, the public access Internet stations we offer are heavily used by recent graduates and older adults seeking information about employment opportunities and economic betterment. I venture to say those would be prime uses in all U.S. communities.

Thank you for your concern in this very important matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "F. T. Kushnir".

F. T. Kushnir, President  
Library Board of Trustees



# LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

*Supporting library cooperation in East Central Illinois*

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 23, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Library of Congress

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW-Room 844  
Washington, DC 20544

Re: CC Docket #96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

Dear Commissioner Ness:

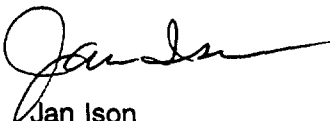
Attached is a copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Trail Libraries System at its meeting of April 21, 1997 in support of the implementation of meaningful discounted telecommunications rates for public libraries and schools. The proposed discounted rate structure will be a critical factor in assuring full access for our citizens to the Internet and other sources of electronic information, as envisioned by Congress in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and in the Recommended Rules of the Federal-State Joint Board.

Lincoln Trail Libraries System is a multitype library consortium serving 118 member academic, public, school, and special libraries and 424,000 citizens in a 5,900 square mile, 9-county area in East Central Illinois. We coordinate a wide range of cooperative activities designed to facilitate interlibrary resource sharing among libraries in our region. Our member libraries include many small rural libraries serving communities as small as 850 residents. An obstacle to universal access to all citizens is the fact that high-speed telecommunications connections to the Internet are more expensive for the most remote libraries with the least ability to afford them. The discounts under consideration will help to make universal access to information a reality for all.

Thank you for your efforts in working to achieve universal access to the world of electronic information for our citizens and our students. Our citizens and society at large will benefit from the widest possible access to information.

Sincerely,

LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM



Jan Ison  
Executive Director

J1/mw  
Enclosure

MAY 1 4 24 PM '97

COMMUNICATIONS  
SECTION  
MAY 1 1997

# Resolution of the Board of Directors of Lincoln Trail Libraries System

**W**HEREAS, in passing the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress expressed the intent that libraries and schools should be afforded meaningful discounts for access to the Internet and other online information resources, and

**W**HEREAS, under the identifying title, *CC Docket #96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools*, the Federal Communications Commission has issued Federal-State Joint Board Proposed Rules regarding affordable telecommunications rates for libraries and schools, and

**W**HEREAS, the proposed rules allow for favorable rates, consisting of 20%-90% discounts to schools and public libraries for high speed telecommunications services and critical non-telecommunications services necessary to assure affordable access to information for our citizens and students, and

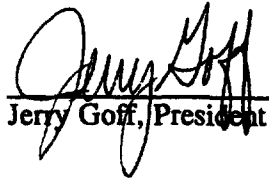
**W**HEREAS, access to affordable telecommunications rates is a critical component to enable schools and public libraries, especially in the rural areas of East Central Illinois, to provide universal access to this wide range of information,

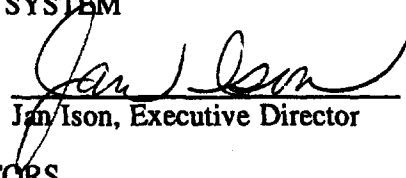
**N**OW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on April 21, 1997 that the Board of Directors and Staff of Lincoln Trail Libraries System strongly support the recommended discounts on telecommunications rates for schools and libraries as embodied in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and hereby urge the Federal Communications Commission and the Illinois Commerce Commission to adopt rules implementing such discounts.



  
SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM

  
Jerry Goff, President

  
Jan Ison, Executive Director

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Goff, President  
Urbana, IL

Allen Lanham, Vice President  
Charleston, IL

Dale Hoover, Treasurer  
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Cisco, IL

John Adams  
Chebanse, IL

Judy Balsamello  
Westville, IL

Rusty Freeland  
Champaign, IL

Dave Johnson  
Gibson City, IL

Vicki O'Rourke  
Marshall, IL

Diann Peabody  
Watseka, IL

Dianne Rothenberg  
Champaign, IL

Joanne B. Rubel  
Mahomet, IL

Patricia Wasson  
Urbana, IL

Lincoln Trail Libraries System  
1704 W. Interstate Drive  
Champaign, IL 61821

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER  
SUSAN NESS

CC 96-45

APR 21 2 26 PM '97 DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

April 2, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW, Room 832  
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Boulton School  
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Cindy Read-Smith  
Kelly L. Gardner  
Wendy Ripo  
Mary Ann Garner  
Cathy Anderson  
Michelle Haglach  
Nelda Lehning  
Beverly Grant  
Lester Bryson  
Elaine Hawkins  
Cindy Khamdoost  
Kate Hinton Smith

Paula P. Winter  
Bob Chamberlain  
Phyllis Miller  
Camielle Loz  
Kamille Nelson  
Al Wostenker  
Coyla Eden  
LaRee Mitchell



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL  
**School District of Beloit**

Committed to Excellence • Strengthened by Diversity

Rosa A. Smith, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

April 14, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

APR 16 10 32 AM '97

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF  
SECRETARY

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner:

Thank you for your efforts and consideration of using a portion of the Universal Service Fund for establishing an "e-rate" telecommunications discount for schools.

Our district is fortunate to have the cooperation of the local college to share a T-1 line which is connected to our high school. By sharing the line our cost is \$865 per month, a savings of \$455 per month by not having our own line. As both Beloit College and our use grows, the sharing of one line will no longer be feasible. The rest of our fifteen schools are connected to the high school with ISDN lines for an annual cost of \$14,000. The combined annual cost of \$24,400 is providing only second rate service to two-thirds of our population of 7,000 students.

Recently one of our school board members questioned the value of the Internet in classroom instruction. His comment was not intended to discount the value of the Internet for instruction, but to highlight down time as students and teachers wait for connections to be made and information to be accessed. Unfortunately, he's right! Second-rate telecommunication infrastructure will waste many hours of instructional time for each student every year. We can ill afford to ignore or obscure the current situation. Students, eager to learn will soon be turned-off if we are unable to provide them with appropriate and responsive learning opportunities.

The proposed recommendation by the Federal-State Joint Board will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide appropriate distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion will only help to address the needs of all our schools and bring services directly to the classroom. The inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital.

Schools across the country are under tremendous fiscal pressure to keep budgets low. Beloit has already eliminated over \$2.5 million from it's already fairly austere budget. Summer school has been eliminated, facility repair and upkeep curtailed, a number of support positions eliminated and supply and equipment budgets are down 25% from four years ago. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service to schools.

Sincerely,

*Rosa A. Smith*

Rosa A. Smith, Ph.D.

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF  
COMMISSIONER  
SUSAN NESS  
APR 21 2 41 PM '97

CC 96-45

April 2, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW, Room 832  
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Northridge High  
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Patricia Furling

Rebekah Olli

Rosemary Steele

Kandee J. Edwards

Ramon Anderson

David M. Berts

Jinda Greenwood

Sharon Lyn Maughan

Sheryl Swasey

Wesley M. White

you for

A. Re Bell

Amedeo Davis

David R. Hill

Debbie Williams

Jeffrey James

S. M. Hyman

Julie Boren

Christy Barnard

Wendy Dimick

Ruth Ann Yahr

Kim Call

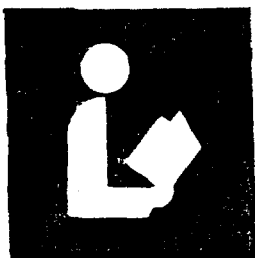
Shelley H. Moser

Judy Scott

Donna J. Dean

James A. Bateman

CC96-45



## SHOREWOOD-TROY LIBRARY

650 Deerwood Drive  
Shorewood, IL 60435  
815/725-1715

April 15, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

APR 21 2 50 PM '97

RECEIVED  
COMMUNICATIONS  
SECTION

Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW - Room 844  
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Commissioner Ness:

We are writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published in November, 1996.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant discounts for telecommunications and critical non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

We in Illinois are fortunate to have strong support for such a discount. On April 10, the Illinois House approved HB 707 (Telecom Bill) with a 115-0 vote, thus making public libraries and library systems eligible for the same discounted telecommunication rates afforded to other educational institutions included in the Public Utilities Act.

We in Shorewood have strong support from the Shorewood Area Chamber of Commerce for Internet access. However, the monetary portion of the commitment is dependent upon the success of their annual 4-day festival, which in turn, is dependent upon the weather.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools -- and -- ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary F. Thomas". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping underline.

Mary F. Thomas,  
Director  
The Staff and Board of Trustees

MFT:sg

RECEIVED

**Hill Field Elementary School**

389 South 1000 East • Clearfield, Utah 84015

APR 21 2 41 PM '97

Judy A. Nixon  
Principal

Telephone  
(801) 774-7408  
Fax  
774-1714

April 2, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW, Room 832  
Washington, D.C., 20054

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

E. Janner

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Hill Field Elementary

(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Deanne Call  
Susan Hood  
Karen Strickland  
Chae Luckie  
Carol Sandahl  
Patricia Kravitz  
Kristy Zumbro  
Bonnie Kent  
Michelle Vandyke  
D. Mark C.  
Stefanie Walker  
Winnie Kelpack  
Amy Jymn  
Kelli Smith

Kathleen Wally  
Evelyn Rupp  
Dakelynn Probert  
Guy A. McK  
Gary Christensen  
Kathy Sutherland  
Stacy Callison  
Joy Paulsen  
Kris Mitchell  
Joy Tuessen  
Alice Cipollini  
Garnie B. Dean  
Adell Erickson  
Juday K. Morrell  
Jina Weddappa  
Rita F. T. T.  
Sharon Moore  
Barbara Durkin  
Jennifer Evans

**F A X**

RECEIVED

OFFICE OF  
DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE

APR 22 6 43 PM '97

CC 96-45

School

To: Susan Ness, Commissioner

Company:

Fax number: +1 (202) 418-2821

Business phone:

From: Barbara Alfriend

Fax number: +1 (410) 669-6025

Business phone:

Home phone:

Date & Time: 4/22/97 3:58:59 PM

Pages: 2

Re: FCC ruling on Telecommunications Act of 1996, Universal Service

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20541

To: The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission

From: Jane D. Daniels, Trustee

The Roland Park Country School

Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Commissioner Ness,

I am currently on the Board of the Roland Park Country School(RPCS). RPCS is in the middle of a Technology Initiative which will allow computer access for all students, faculty and staff through an expanded and updated computer network within the school. With this expanded network comes the ability to access the Internet. Access to the Internet allows Roland Park's students to "experience the world...they can use the Internet to do research on cutting-edge developments in genetics and explore the museums of Paris...they can share their opinions on current events with the White House and their daily experiences with students half way around the world...this invaluable tool has expanded and enhanced the students' learning experiences and enables them to experience first-hand the global community of which they are a part." Access to the Internet is vital to our students.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that schools and libraries will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

In addition, the discounts which are included are especially vital to the public schools and libraries, which without these discounts might not be able to otherwise afford Internet access. With fewer available dollars for "non-essentials" these institutions often have the greatest needs.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries. I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

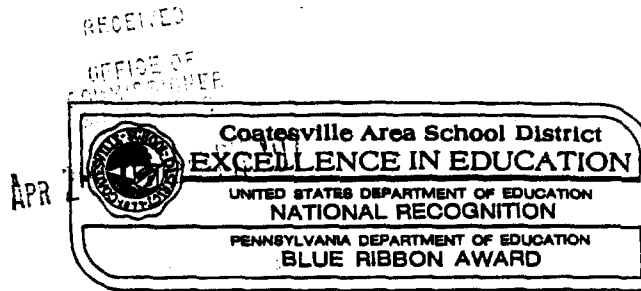
Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Jane D. Daniels(410-669-6025)

**School Board**

Leonard A. Fredericks  
*President*  
Clarence W. Smith  
*Vice President*  
John H. Hamilton  
Roger McGuigan  
Linda R. Messinger  
G. David Patrylak  
Hugh J. Redditt, Jr.  
Patrick H. Sellers  
Dr. Russell H. Vreeland



Louis M. Laurento, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Paul J. Bentley, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent

Nicholas Malobabich  
Business Administrator

1515 E. Lincoln Highway  
Coatesville, PA 19320-2494  
(610) 383-7900 Fax (610) 384-2086

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am the Assistant Superintendent from the Coatesville Area School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and more importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Coatesville Area School District, with a state aid ratio of .5381 and an equalized millage in the top quartile, is limited in its ability to make a significant investment to expand its technology base. As a result, technology has not been developed to its full potential, lacks connectivity beyond the school walls, and has not been integrated within the curriculum. The district has not been able to fund a comprehensive technology training program thus denying students and community of the benefits that could be derived if a program were in place.

The Honorable Susan Ness

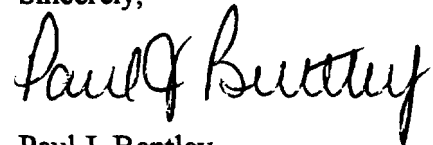
April 22, 1997

Page 2

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul J. Bentley".

Paul J. Bentley  
Assistant Superintendent

PJB/etl

**Bushnell-Prairie City Community Unit School District #170**

845 North Walnut Street • Bushnell, Illinois 61422

## • ADMINISTRATION •

Lynn Hartweger, Supt.  
Unit Office 309/772-9461  
Fax 309/772-9462

Jerry Merrick, Prin.  
High School 309/772-2113

Ray Krey, Prin.  
Junior High 309/772-3123

Steve Russell, Prin.  
Elementary 309/772-9464  
Fax 309/772-9466

April 23, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

I am a Superintendent from Bushnell-Prairie City C.U.S.D. #170 in Bushnell, Illinois. I appreciate your dedication in ensuring that all school districts will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

District #170 is making every effort to integrate global communications opportunities into the instructional program. The scope of this program will be severely limited or perhaps even short-lived without this discount plan.

Deep discounts for telecommunications services to schools are needed this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

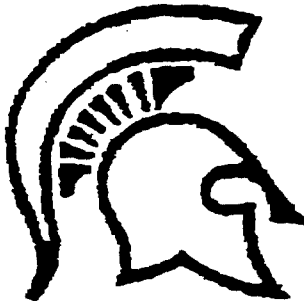
Sincerely,

  
Lynn Hartweger, Superintendent  
Bushnell-Prairie City C.U.S.D. #170

## • BOARD OF EDUCATION •

Linda L. Hensley, Pres. • Howard L. Daniels, V.P. • Crystal A. Bedwell, Sec. • Ken A. Curtis • Layne McKee • Karen Keener • Jeff Bryan

BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #170  
845 N. WALNUT BUSHNELL, IL 61422



B-PC SPARTANS

FAX COVER SHEET

Lynn Hartweger, Superintendent

Phone: 309-772-9461

FAX: 309-772-9462

SEND TO: Company Name:	FROM: <i>Lynn Hartweger</i>
Attention: <i>Susan Ness Commissioner</i>	Date: <i>4-23-97</i>
Fax Number: <i>202-418-2821</i>	Phone Number: <i>309-772-9461</i>

☐ Urgent    ☐ Reply ASAP    ☐ Please comment    ☐ Please review    ☐ For your information

Total Pages, including cover 2

COMMENTS:

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CC96-45

Joseph Cook Elementary School  
1175 West 1350 South  
Syracuse, Utah 84075



774-7402

Laurel Bain  
Principal

April 2, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW, Room 832  
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

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APR 16 1997

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMISSION

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Cock Elementary  
(Name of school)

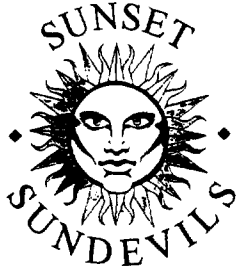
Davis County School District, Utah

Judy J. Watton  
Haylene Rederick  
Myrna Wilcox  
Kay Day  
Judy Heeper  
Flavia Wilsey  
Becky Bellman

Elaine Ophardt  
Louise Indrmedin

Natalie Merrill  
Audrey Francis

Laurel M. Bain  
Kramer Smith



## Sunset Junior High School

1610 NORTH 250 WEST  
SUNSET, UTAH 84015  
PHONE 801-774-7440  
FAX 801-774-7446

CC 96-45

LARRY E. BREWER  
PRINCIPAL  
DOUGLAS C. CANNON  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
ROBERT ITO  
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL  
LLOYD H. KJAR  
COUNSELOR  
LORETTA NIELSON  
COUNSELOR

April 2, 1997

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St. NW, Room 832  
Washington, D.C., 20054

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20541

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF THE  
ATTORNEY GENERAL  
APR 21 11:03 AM '97

Dear Commissioner Ness,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Sunset Jr. High  
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

W. Benj. Bloomfield  
Doug Cannon  
Janita Nelson  
Jana Byr  
Le Brewer  
R. A. Sunderland  
Lloyd H. Kyar  
Melanie Sill  
Lisa Briel  
Claire Wray  
Danna Anderson  
Gay Hicks  
Annette Almstead

Aimee Mathews  
Sherry J. Superbo  
Jeanette Douchkins  
V. Chan  
R. K. St.

Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844  
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Susan Ness:

Being a Maintenance Supervisor for the Iroquois School District for the past 20 years, I know all too well how schools use money from their general fund budgets to pay for the \$500.00 per month T1 lines and wiring for the classrooms in order to teach our students about telecommunications. I also know how financially depressed our school district is from our local business, General Electric. General Electric continues to ask for a tax reassessment and having it lowered, paying less and less tax each year. But on the other hand, General Electric expects well trained or fully trained employees, right out of school, to run their NC machines and other computerized systems.

I have also worked with our local phone company and have found a lot of resistance in helping or doing telecommunications in the schools. Just where **Will** people learn about all the new advantages and operations dealing with telecommunications?

On the street like our kids used to with sex?

We have a system to learn from, but it is being tied up and priced out of the reach for our students. I hope you will keep all students in full view when you vote on the E-Rate

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan

Will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.